

Weather Forecast
Snow today and tonight; low near 32.
Tomorrow windy, clear and cold.
Temperatures today—Highest, 45, at 12:01 a.m.; lowest, 32, at 9 a.m.; 32 at noon. Yesterday—Highest, 60, at 1:15 a.m.; lowest, 45, at 11:55 p.m.

The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

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IWO JIMA, CORREGIDOR LANDINGS REPORTED

Reinforced Nazis Are Reported In Violent Battle With Russians Sixty Miles Southeast of Berlin

Reds Near Cottbus, Huge Rail Center; Breslau Shelled

(Map on Page A-6.)

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Feb. 17.—Reinforced Nazi divisions and units of two great Russian armies were reported locked today in a violent battle on the southeastern approaches to Berlin—within about 60 miles of the German capital and 100 miles northwest of encircled Breslau.

Soviet front dispatches said Russian troops moving toward Cottbus, huge rail center 47 miles southeast of Berlin, gained up to 18 miles yesterday and were within sight of the Spree River, last natural defense line guarding the Reich capital. The German radio told of fighting in the Forst area, 12 miles east of Cottbus, and announced abandonment of Sagan, Bober River city midway between Breslau and Berlin. (An NBC broadcast from Moscow said Marshal Ivan Konev had swept to within 3 miles of Cottbus.)

Russian Junction Reported. The Germans said also that the northern wing of Marshal Konev's 1st Ukrainian Army and the southern flank of Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's 1st White Russian Army had linked up at Crossen, 63 miles southeast of Berlin and 36 miles northeast of Cottbus, but this was not confirmed by Moscow.

(A Moscow dispatch said Russian infantry was closing in on the Neisse River fortress town of Guben from three sides while it was being blasted by heavy artillery and bombers. Guben, a vital center of the German line 60 miles southeast of Berlin, is west and slightly south of Crossen, where German reports said Marshal Konev's and Marshal Zhukov's armies had made contact.)

(The Moscow dispatch continued that Russian armor appeared to have captured strategic positions perhaps as close as 35 to 50 miles southeast of Berlin after cutting through thin German lines. It said all signs pointed to desperate confusion in Nazi ranks.)

The Germans rushed veterans and unseasoned home army recruits into the area in an effort to stop the Russian threat to turn Berlin's eastern defenses.

Reds Blast Breslau. Soviet aircraft, meanwhile, shelled Breslau from all directions. The Russians were officially declared to be only 4 miles from the heart of Breslau, a sprawling city of 630,000 straddling the Oder River. They seized Drachenbrunn, adjoining Bischofshausen, a forest on the southeast side of the city.

An enemy broadcast late last night said the "decisive battle" for Breslau had begun. Marshal Konev's troops have been closing a steel arc on the lower Silesian capital for many days.

The Germans also indicated the fall of Poznan (Posen), great hold-out strong point in Poland, was near, saving street fighting raged in the heart of the city.

The Russians fought to exploit the (See RUSSIA, Page A-6.)

10 Believed Dead In Apartment Fire

BULLETIN. TACOMA, Wash. (AP)—Fire Chief C. J. Eisenbacher said today he believed a "minimum of 10 persons" lost their lives today when a fire of undetermined origin destroyed an apartment house here.

By the Associated Press. TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 17.—One person was known dead, and an unknown number were feared trapped in a blazing downtown apartment house here today.

Thirteen persons were in hospitals with burns and other injuries. At least one person was known to be missing.

An unidentified young woman died in Pierce County Hospital of burns. Firemen rescued many of the occupants with ladders and life nets. Still others jumped from windows or made their way down fire escapes.

Fire Chief C. J. Eisenbacher said he feared a number of persons had been trapped in the rear of the 43-apartment Mearns, a four-story building occupied by war workers and the wives and children of servicemen. There were between 75 and 85 tenants in the building.

The blaze apparently started with an explosion in a candy factory in the basement of the masonry-covered frame building about 2 a.m. and was still burning three hours later.

Late Bulletin

Woman Asphyxiated

Mrs. Jack Zellman, found overcome by gas in the kitchen of her home at 4306 Georgia avenue N.W. early this afternoon, was pronounced dead by an ambulance physician, police reported, after a rescue squad was unable to revive her.

Dutch Officer Held by British As Betrayer of Arnhem Attack

Accused of Tip Costing 6,000 Lives; Now Prisoner in Tower of London

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Feb. 17.—A Dutch officer is being held in the Tower of London, accused by the British government, on the basis of carefully gathered evidence, of tipping off the Germans to the Arnhem air-borne attack, which collapsed after an eight-day battle last September.

On the officer, whose name was withheld, British may seek to place the principal blame for the failure of the assault, made by the British "Red Devil" 1st Parachute Division at a cost of more than 6,000 of its 8,000 men.

From a London informant came this story of how the officer was discovered and captured.

Early last August there reported to Dutch resistance liaison men this officer, of whom they knew and trusted on the basis of three years of effective underground work. He offered to bear messages to resistance representatives within Holland by sneaking through German lines. He was known to be an excellent marksman.

To check on his reliability they asked him whether he would be willing to kill several Germans. He readily named several stationed in Holland and promised to get them. Subsequently Brussels officers checked his list. They found he

had killed the Germans he named. Thereafter they saw no reasons to distrust him.

It appears that among the secret messages from London was one advising the Dutch underground of the pending Arnhem invasion, with view of soliciting underground support.

When the parachute remnants had to fight their way out of the Arnhem salient after a relief column was unable to cross the Neder Rhine nobody suspected this man. He had crossed to Allied lines when underground forces struck in co-operation with the British attack.

He came under scrutiny of intelligence men, however, and soon sufficient evidence piled up to warrant his arrest. One problem remained. He was an extremely cagey individual, who always carried a pistol. He was a superior shot that it was considered inadvisable to try to disarm him by force.

So a ruse was hit upon. The officer was invited to a cocktail party. He thoroughly enjoyed the party. But when he tried to depart he was arrested. He was handed over to British authorities, since Arnhem fell within the 21st Army Group's jurisdiction. He was flown to Britain on orders of supreme headquarters.

The informant said he believed the Germans shot by the officer as proof of his loyalty to the resistance movement probably were from a list furnished by the German Gestapo and would have been killed by the Gestapo anyway.

Canadians Smash Through Mud Almost To Goch and Calcar

Troops Advancing Under Cover of Heavy Fire Cut Main Highway

By the Associated Press. PARIS, Feb. 17.—Canadian 1st Army troops today battled to within 1 1/2 miles or less of the shell-ripped Nazi bastions of Goch and Calcar, southeast of Kieve, in a sudden, resurgent push over mired battlefields.

Britons, Scots and Canadians under Gen. Henry Crerar's command lunged forward yesterday behind a wall of bombs, rockets and bullets from Allied planes, and British troops spearheaded 2 1/2 miles ahead, cutting the main Goch-Calcar highway at two points.

Troops closing on Goch and Calcar gained 2,500 yards. They entered Esperden and Hervorst, within 1 1/2 miles of the Goch, and toppled Hommersum and Mull, 5 miles west of the strongly held road center 7 miles south of Kieve.

1,000 Nazis Captured. Canadian tanks and infantry troops fought a mile and a half from Calcar, southeast of Kieve, and 17 miles from bomb-wrecked Wesel, northern gate to the industrial Ruhr.

Gen. Crerar's men were 5 miles or less from Uedem, third road center strongpoint.

More than 1,000 Nazi prisoners were taken in the last 24 hours, boosting the total in the army's offensive to 5,000, a front dispatch said. Another described yesterday's air-assisted gains as probably the best since early in the nine-day-old push.

British troops, biting 4,000 yards deep and across the Goch-Calcar highway, almost scored a breakthrough, front reporters said, spearing deep into lines of the German 116th Panzer and 15th Panzer Grenadier Divisions.

Nazi Counterattacks Light. This push carried through the Siegfried Line's defense zone from Kieve to Goch and cut just north of Halvenboom.

Scottish troops on the western flank struck down the Gennepvelo road and routed Germans from a wood less than a mile northeast of the Maas River town of Afferden. The Germans—their strength now

Three additional men from the District area have been reported killed in this war. See "On the Honor Roll," Page A-2.

(See WESTERN FRONT, Page A-2.)

Federal Liquor Taxes Pass Two-Billion Mark

By the Associated Press. Federal liquor taxes passed the \$2,000,000,000 mark in 1944 for the first time.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue reported that receipts jumped from \$1,454,000,000 in 1943 to \$2,083,000,000 in 1944.

The Commerce Department says the increase was due partly to greater drinking in 1944 and partly to higher tax rates on whisky and beer, which went into effect last April 1.

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Showdown Nearing On Lack of Supplies For Liberated Nations

Demands Are Voiced For Immediate Relief In France and Belgium

By the Associated Press. A showdown appears to be developing over Anglo-American failure to provide adequate food, clothing and other supplies for the liberated countries of Europe.

Here on the hue and cry which has been raised in London this week over the asserted shortcomings of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in the situation. Involved are questions of the fact that—despite elaborate plans which were laid down by the military and Western European administrations last summer—enough supplies have not been going through.

The basic facts of the situation appear to be these:

1. The Western European countries, as well as those in Italy and other Mediterranean states are at the moment worse off in some respects than they were under the period of German occupation. A factor is the chaos which battle aftermath leaves.

2. The Allies had planned on a slower liberation of France than was actually accomplished and figured on a gradual, rather than sudden, need of supplies from the United States.

3. Total demands on Allied shipping have strained cargo capacity to the utmost. The military people insist that there simply has not been enough tonnage to carry forward the offensives on both sides of the (See UNRRA, Page A-2.)

(See MANPOWER, Page A-2.)

Allied Delays Enable Germans To Reorganize West Front Line

By WES GALLAGHER, Associated Press War Correspondent.

WITH THE UNITED STATES 9TH ARMY IN GERMANY, Feb. 17.—German western front defenses, in a chaotic condition three weeks ago as a result of the Russian drive on Berlin, have been stabilized and reorganized.

By not striking at the height of the German confusion, the Allies have made it possible for the Nazi high command to repair much of the damage done by its hurried draining of divisions to the eastern front at the height of the retreat out of the Belgian bulge.

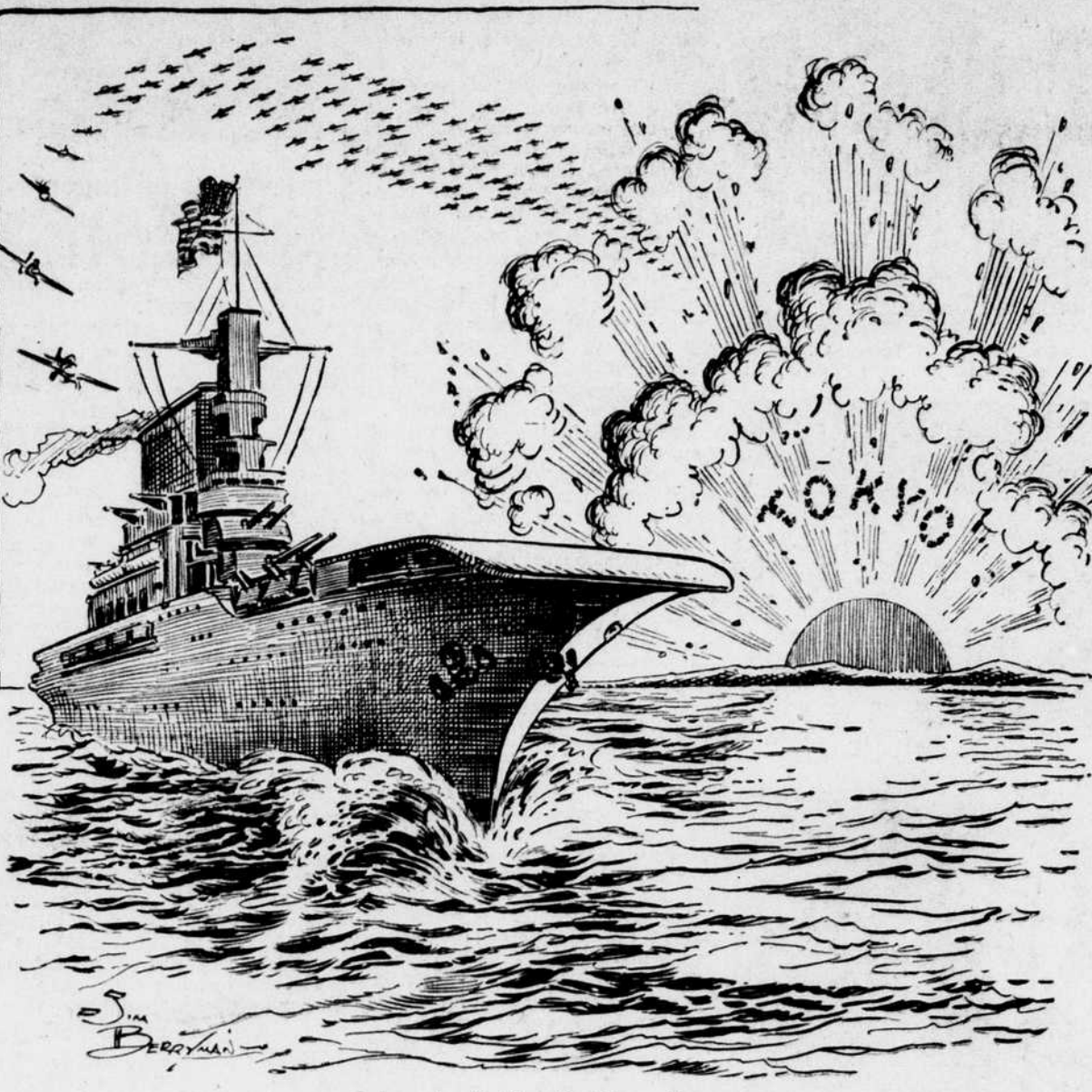
Except for air attacks and the German 1st Army offensive in the north, the Germans have been molested only by local actions and patrol activity along the western front.

Because only the Canadian Army has been attacking, the Germans have been able to shift divisions to meet this thrust and the opposition to the Canadian forces is increasing daily.

This one-army attack at a time has been typical of the Allied winter strategy and the Germans have been able to shift their reserves like a backfield defense in a football game along the long front to hold the threatened spot at the expense of weakening other places.

While the Germans have been able to reorganize the front, this does not mean that it is strongly held. It is held with the least number of crack troops since last October and at places it is little more than a screen of infantry using front.

(See GALLAGHER, Page A-3.)



Land of the Setting Sun

Illinois Camp Will Get First 'Job Jumpers' Through Draft Soon

Senate Marks Time Over Legislative Proposals For Compulsory Work

By J. A. O'LEARY. While the Senate marked time today over compulsory work legislation, the War Department gave a new demonstration of the power it already possesses to invoke the work-or-fight principle by announcing that a group of drafted "job jumpers" will arrive in a few days for basic training at Camp Ellis, Ill.

The Army announced several weeks ago it would take men below minimum physical standards who leave essential jobs for which they were deferred under the draft law but this is the first sizable group to be sent to camp.

Four-Week Course. Some opponents of the pending work-or-fight bill have contended since the measure was introduced that the selective service law as it now stands gives draft boards ample power to induce men who leave essential jobs. Until recently, the hitch was that if a man did not meet Army physical standards, he was turned down by the military authorities.

The War Department explained that men below minimum physical standards, inducted under recent instructions of War Mobilization Director Byrnes, will be given a four-week basic training course designed to fit their physical limitations.

On completion of the Camp Ellis training course these men, who possess skills needed in essential industries and who volunteer to return to those industries, would be given inactive status in the enlisted reserve. They would be given a four-week basic training course designed to fit their physical limitations.

Men who do not volunteer in this way may be assigned as uniformed soldiers to work in Government-owned plants, it was explained. The remainder, who have no technical skills that are needed at the time, would be assigned to Army operating installations.

The procedure announced by the War Department yesterday offers a means of accomplishing to a large extent the first objective of the House-approved May bill, namely, to freeze essential workers in their jobs. It is not, however, a complete substitute for the pending legislation, for two reasons:

First, the May bill will freeze in essential jobs and on farms all men between 18 and 45, whereas, under present draft procedure, men above 38 are not considered for military inductees.

Second, the May bill is being advocated to enable draft boards, or (See MANPOWER, Page A-2.)

Yank Yells Into House And Nazis Half Block Away Surrender

By the Associated Press. WITH THE U. S. 4th DIVISION, Feb. 17.—Comrades were calling Technical Sgt. Eugene Grimes of Elrama, Pa., "Old Leather Lungs" today. He tossed two grenades into a house and yelled for the Germans to come out.

Half a block down the street three Germans came running with their hands over their heads.

Snow May Continue Throughout Tonight; Freeze Held Unlikely

Three Persons Injured In Accidents Due To Slippery Streets

The snowfall which began this morning will continue throughout the day and most of the night, the Weather Bureau predicted today, with the temperature remaining around freezing.

If the snow remained on the ground, there might be two or three inches by tomorrow morning, the forecaster said. However, because the streets and the ground are warm from the recent mild weather, the snow is melting almost as soon as it hits the ground. There was little prospect of a hard freeze, the forecaster said.

Tomorrow will be clear, windy and a little colder, he said.

Three persons were injured in accidents which police said were caused by slippery streets.

Cot. Theron J. Taylor, 53, Fort Meade, Md., was hurt when his car struck a column on the west end of the H street underpass near Union Station. He was treated at Casualty Hospital for head injuries and removed to the Army base hospital at Fort Myer for observation.

Cecil Johnson, 30, of 1040 South Scott street, Arlington, Va., a passenger in the colonel's car, suffered abrasions to the knees and head injuries. She was taken to Sibley Hospital.

Mrs. Lilli Klagsbrunn, 67, of 2700 12 street, N.W., was struck by an automobile when she slipped from the curb in the 1100 block of G street N.W., police said. She was treated for cuts and bruises at Emergency Hospital. Police said the car was driven by Daniel C. Biehl, 43, of 1201 Forty-first place S.E.

The Capital Transit Co. reported there have been no bus or streetcar delays as a result of the snow. Sanders have been out since 9:30 a.m., working on slippery streets, mostly in the outlying areas, officials said. If the snow continues, sweepers will be sent out on the carlines later in the day.

Meanwhile, William A. Xanten, District refuse director, said more than 400 men are available if the snow becomes deep enough to warrant the use of snowplows. Some sanding has been done, he said, but none of the heavy snow-fighting equipment has been needed as yet.

Snow was general throughout the East, but more severe in the Middle West. The coldest spots were in the North, where Minnesota reported temperatures of from 5 to 10 degrees below zero.

In the South, showers, in some places accompanied by thunder, were general, with temperatures down into the 60s.

Full-Color Air View Of Jefferson Memorial

A full-color air view of East Potomac Park, showing the Jefferson Memorial, Tidal Basin, Washington Monument and other landmarks of the Capital, is reproduced on the cover of The Star's gravure section for tomorrow.

Wallace Confirmation Appears Certain After George Bill Passage

Opposition in Senate Expected to Collapse; Shutdown Due March 1

By the Associated Press. Only time, a stroke of President Roosevelt's pen and some debate in the Senate today appear to separate Henry A. Wallace from a coveted cabinet post.

Congress let down the last practical bar to his confirmation as Secretary of Commerce when the House, late yesterday, passed and sent to the White House the George bill shearing the multibillion-dollar lending agencies from the Commerce Department.

The President had promised to let the bill become law—an action without which Mr. Wallace admittedly could not be confirmed. With that accomplished, effective Senate opposition appeared almost certain to collapse.

Pepper Sees Confirmation. Senator Pepper, Democrat, of Florida, head man of the Wallace forces, predicted substantial approval of the nomination. He said he could see no reason why a vote shouldn't be taken at once, since the President had agreed to sign the bill.

Senate Majority Leader Barkley thought House passage of the George measure "greatly improves" Mr. Wallace's chances of being confirmed "without further serious controversy."

The Senate has agreed to vote March 1 on the appointment. But before it does, there is likely to be more talk by those members who don't want the CIO-supported Wallace Vice President to hold any job where his salary is met by the taxpayers.

Although they succeeded in blocking him out of a place where he would have had an important part in spending the taxpayers' money, some of his opponents were not yet willing to give up.

Taft's Opposition Stands. For instance, Senator Taft of Ohio, chairman of the Republican Steering Committee, said the passage of the George bill "makes no difference in my position."

"I am just as much opposed to confirmation of Mr. Wallace as I was before."

But Senator Bailey, Democrat, of North Carolina said he was "pleased" by the House action in approving the George bill exactly as it passed the Senate.

It was Senator Bailey, chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, who made the original motion which carried the Wallace nomination to the brink of defeat on a Senate showdown (Wallace supporters won on a tie vote).

Senator Bailey was understood to be prepared to urge his opposition colleagues to give up the fight and let Mr. Wallace be confirmed for a post he said he would accept without the authority over the lending agencies.

The House came within eight votes yesterday of overturning the Senate's arrangement. However, the administration bested a Republican-Southern Democrat coalition in a 204-to-198 vote defeating a motion to recommit the George bill to committee, shelving it.

Approved 399 to 2. The George measure then was passed 399 to 2, with Representatives Lempke, Republican, of North Dakota and Wilson, Republican, of Indiana casting the only negative votes.

Mr. Wilson, who introduced the motion to recommit, was forced to vote "no" under House rules.

Twenty-two Democrats joined with 176 Republicans in the unsuccessful effort to shelve the George bill. Only two Republicans and two minor party members went along with 200 Democrats to rescue it.

The Democrats who voted for the motion to recommit were Abernethy, Wilson, and others.

(See WALLACE, Page A-2.)

Japs Claim Repulse Of U. S. Invasion of Isle South of Tokyo

Enemy Fears Action May Be Prelude to Strike at Homeland

(Map on Page A-3.)

By the Associated Press.

American amphibious troops today invaded Iwo Jima, 750 miles south of Tokyo, an Imperial Japanese communiqué reported, and one Tokyo newspaper was quoted in other broadcasts as saying the heavy carrier-borne air raids around the capital, now in their second day, may be "preparatory to the enemy's landing scheme on the homeland."

Unconfirmed Domei news agency dispatches, intended for the Federal Communications Commission, which said Yank assault forces had landed on two beaches on the southern shore of Iwo within 10 minutes, were followed by the Imperial announcement which claimed the attacks were repulsed and five attacking ships sunk.

The communiqué said the landings on the largest island of the Volcano group were made under the support of "furious naval gun barrages." It said one battleship, two cruisers and two unknown type ships were sunk under attack by shore guns and the Japanese Air Force. Three assault ships were claimed damaged, and 10 attacking planes downed.

Another enemy communiqué claimed one American warship, probably a destroyer, was ablaze and 147 American planes shot down in raids on the Tokyo metropolitan area. The Japanese high command admitted loss of 61 aircraft.

Tokyo asserted today's carrier strike at the Tokyo area lasted for 6 hours, and saw 9 hours yesterday, and the number of raiders dwindled to 600.

Hachijo Jima Attacked. The Tokyo home radio also reported simultaneous attacks by 200 carrier-based planes on Hachijo Jima Island, in the Izu group some 200 miles south of Tokyo.

The Tokyo newspaper Asahi was quoted as editorializing that the Domei report on the Tokyo landings on Iwo Jima may lead to a landing on the homeland. Mainichi, another leading Tokyo newspaper, was quoted as saying amphibious forces backed by the United States 5th Fleet, "might strike directly at the Japanese homeland and effect landings there."

Landings such as the report of the two assault normally are first announced by Tokyo, which invariably says that they were "repulsed."

Chungking, intercepting Tokyo reports to the Orient on the Iwo invasion, made no mention of claim that the attack had been repulsed.

Thunderous Bombardment. The reported invasion came in the wake of a thunderous air and naval bombardment, backed by the big guns of a task force which the Japanese said included at least 30 American warships.

The Domei report, which preceded the Tokyo communiqué said: "All the enemy attempts at landing on Iwo Jima have so far been repulsed by our garrison troops, with heavy losses inflicted on the enemy, front-line dispatches reaching here this afternoon reported."

"According to the dispatches, the enemy task force operating in the waters of Iwo Jima started landing operation on Futatsune Beach on the southwestern part of that island about 10:30 a.m. Saturday. Our garrison troops in that area promptly counterattacked these enemy troops and completely smashed the enemy attempt at landing, the dispatches declared."

Following this failure all enemy troops withdrew far out to sea, the dispatches added.

Another Landing Attempt. "About 10 minutes later, according to the same dispatches, the enemy made another attempt at landing around 11:40 on the eastern shore. An attempt the enemy started landing on Kamiyama beach on the southwestern tip of the island."

"Our garrison troops going into action to engage these enemy forces (See IWO JIMA, Page A-3.)

Freight Conductor Killed In C. & O. Collision

By the Associated Press. HINTON, W. Va., Feb. 17.—The conductor of a fast Chesapeake & Ohio freight train was killed and 50 to 100 passengers on a Huntington-Charlottesville local were shaken up today when the local ran into the rear of the stalled freight.

The conductor who lost his life, C. A. Leake of Russell, Ky., was in the caboose of the freight at the time of the crash. The caboose was ripped to pieces and Mr. Leake's body was found two hours later under wreckage piled up on the locomotive of the passenger train.

LANCASTER, Pa., Feb. 17 (AP)—A passenger train crashed into a derailed mail and express train today at Leaman Place, 11 miles east of here, but no one was injured seriously, the Pennsylvania Railroad public relations office reported.

The office said first reports indicated 40 persons suffered minor injuries, bruises and cuts when the second section of the east-bound St. Louis-New York passenger train, "The American" ran into eight derailed cars of the mail and express.

Passenger traffic was being routed over freight tracks, officials said.

Many Japs on Bataan. Several thousand enemy troops are still on Bataan. They include service corpsmen and survivors of a bitter 10-day struggle to prevent the (See PHILIPPINES, Page A-3.)

Conductor Leaves \$30,000 To Aid Wayward Juveniles

By the Associated Press. GENEVA, Ill., Feb. 17.—A Burlington Railroad conductor who amassed a \$100,000 estate, left \$30,000 of it to assist Kane County boys and girls if they go wrong, his will in County Court disclosed today.

He was John Holden, 90, who died February 9, in neighboring Aurora. The will directed that the \$30,000 trust fund be administered by Judge C. C. Allen of the Kane County Court as he deems wisest in the prevention of juvenile delinquency.

Mr. Holden, who was born in England, retired 20 years ago after 50 years with the Burlington Railroad.